

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-13, and 15-28 remain pending in the application. Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The allowance of the application is noted with appreciation. In reviewing the Notice of Allowability and the application after allowance, Applicant noted a number of informalities that should be corrected.

First, in the Notice of Allowability itself, it is stated that the allowed claims 1, 2, 4-13, 15-28 have been "renumbered as 1-10, 13-21, 23-25, , 22, 26, 12", thus inadvertently omitting a new claim 11. It is believed that the allowed claims should be renumbered as 1-10, 13-21, 23-25, 11, 22, 26, 12". (Emphasis added). Correction is respectfully requested.

In reviewing the claims after allowance, Applicant has noted for the first time that in original claim 2, there is no punctuation mark separating the first step of "reserving ..." from the second step of "separating ...". It is therefore now proposed to insert a ";" (i.e., semicolon) after the word "link" at the end of the "reserving ..." step. It is believed that this amendment would not change the scope of the claim in any way, and is therefore enterable after allowance.

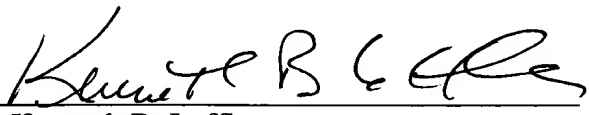
Also, in reviewing the Examiner's Amendment on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability, it is noted that a number of informalities have been introduced that Applicant would now like to correct. First, it is proposed to change the phrases "synchronous communication links" and "asynchronous communication links" to instead read "synchronous communications links" and "asynchronous communications links" (i.e., plural "communications") in order to provide proper antecedent bases for these terms.

Further, it is noted that the Examiner's Amendment to claim 22 inadvertently repeats the phrase "when communicating with the slave communication unit" twice in succession. It is therefore now proposed to cancel the second occurrence of this phrase.

It is believed that the above amendments will put the application into better form for allowance without introducing new subject matter or raising new issues. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that they be entered. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns about these proposals, he is invited to call the undersigned Attorney at the telephone number indicated below in order to expedite resolution of any such questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,
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